

# County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control

Administrative Office 5898 Cherry Avenue Long Beach, California 90805 (562) 728-4610 • Fax (562) 422-3408 http://animalcare.lacounty.gov



March 01, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPTED** 

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

29 March 1, 2016

LORI GLASGOW EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION OF \$200,000 FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY ANIMAL CARE FOUNDATION TO OFFSET REDEMPTION FEES FOR OWNERS RECLAIMING THEIR LOST PETS

(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)

(3 VOTES)

#### **SUBJECT**

Request approval to accept a donation of \$200,000 from the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation to the Department of Animal Care and Control.

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

- 1. Accept a gift of \$200,000 to offset redemption fees for lost pets being reclaimed by their owners, in order to increase the return-to-owner rate of pets at Department of Animal Care and Control's animal care centers.
- 2. Instruct your Board to prepare and send a letter of appreciation to the donors for their generous donation.

## PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Department of Animal Care and Control (Department) is pleased to inform your Board that the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation (Foundation) has received a grant in the amount of \$200,000 from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) to be used to increase the redemption rate of lost pets at the Department's animal care centers. Since this gift is in excess of \$10,000 it requires your Board's approval for acceptance.

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# <u>Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals</u>

The acceptance of the donation to the Department will support the organizational goal of operation effectiveness (Goal 1) by providing financial assistance to pet owners who cannot afford to pay the owner redemption fees to reclaim their lost pets that have been impounded by the Department.

## **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The recommended action will not result in any additional cost to the Department.

#### FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Government Code Section 25335 permits the County to accept donations or other gifts for a specific County purpose. Section 2.4.2 of the County Fiscal Manual authorizes County departments to accept donations in excess of \$10,000 with Board approval.

The Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. The Foundation's sole purpose is to assist and promote the programs of the Department. Your Board approved an agreement between the Foundation and the Department on October 21, 2002, pursuant to County policies requiring Board approval of agreements between County departments and their supporting non-profit foundations.

# **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

This donation will provide additional resources to allow pet owners to reclaim their stray animals from County animal care centers. This additional financial support is designed to increase the number of animals returned to their owners, who otherwise would not be able to afford to pay the redemption fees to reclaim their pets.

This grant is comprised of the following two projects:

Project One: "Baldwin Park Pilot" - As part of a pilot project at Baldwin Park, the ASPCA will subsidize Return to Owner (RTO) fees, not to exceed \$400 in ASPCA grant funding per pet, including vaccines, spay/neuter, impoundment fees, and associated costs for pet owners who meet the following criteria:

- a. First occurrence of impoundment by the household, and
- b. The animal is not part of a Dangerous Dog case

The Baldwin Park Pilot will end when \$70,000 of grant funding for this purpose has been expended or the ASPCA communicates to the Grantee that Project One has concluded. Remaining funds, if any, shall be used for Project Two.

Project Two: "LA County RTO Assistance Program" - The ASPCA will partially or fully subsidize redemption fees at any animal care center at which the ASPCA Safety Net Program operates, with the exception of Dangerous Dog Hold cases. Currently the Safety Net Program operates at the Baldwin Park and Downey Animal Care Centers. The amount of the redemption fee paid per pet shall be determined by the ASPCA Safety Net Manager or, in their absence, representatives at the ASPCA RTO assistance hotline, in consultation with applicable County care center staff.

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\$130,000 plus the remainder from Project One, if any, will be allocated to Project Two.

The Department, Foundation, and the ASPCA will monitor the success of these programs to determine their effectiveness.

# CONCLUSION

Two draft appreciation letters thanking the ASPCA and the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation for the generous donation are attached. Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Animal Care and Control.

Respectfully submitted,



MARCIA MAYEDA
Director

MM:in

**Enclosures** 

c: Chief Executive Office County Counsel Executive Office (DATE)

Ms. Jill Buckley, Esq. American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals 520 8th Street, 7th Floor New York, NY 10018

Dear Ms. Buckley:

### **DONATION**

At its meeting of March 1, 2016, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors accepted, with thanks, the generous grant in the amount of \$200,000 to offset redemption fees for lost pets being reclaimed by their owners.

This donation will be used to increase the return-to-owner rate of pets. We deeply appreciate your kindness in helping the County to return pets to their owners.

The Board members requested that I express their appreciation to you for this generous donation.

Very Truly Yours,

Patrick Ogawa Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (DATE)

Mr. John Gonzales, President Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation P.O. Box 100515 Pasadena, CA 91889-0515

Dear Mr. Gonzales:

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At its meeting of March 1, 2016, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors accepted, with thanks, the generous grant in the amount of \$200,000 to offset redemption fees for lost pets being reclaimed by their owners.

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Patrick Ogawa Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors